

if any of the persons notified shall, by answer, deny the truth thereof, the court may cause proper issues to be submitted to a jury concerning the execution and contents of the same. and the true boundaries of the land claimed, and on their verdict and the pleadings, the court shall adjudge the rights of the parties, and declare the contents of the deed, if any deed be found by the jury, and allow the registration of such judgment and declaration, which shall have the force and effect of a deed.

SEC. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That any person desirous of establishing the contents of a will destroyed as aforesaid, there being no copy thereof, may file his petition, setting forth the entire contents thereof, according to the best of his knowledge, information and belief, and all persons having an interest under the same. shall be made parties, and if the truth of such petition be denied, the court may direct proper issues to be made up, and the matter in controversy tried by a jury, whether the will was recorded, and if so recorded, the contents thereof, and the declarations of the court shall be recorded as the will of the testator; any devisee or legatee shall be a competent witness as to the contents of every part of said will, except such as may concern his own interest in the same.

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SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That every person desirous of perpetuating the contents of any destroyed judgments, order or proceedings of court, or any paper admitted to record or registration, or directed to be filed for safe keeping, other than wills or conveyances of real estate, or some right or interest therein, or any deed or other instrument of writing, required to be recorded or registered but not having been recorded or registered, it being competent to register or record said deed or other instrument at the time of its loss or destruction, may file his petition setting forth the substance of the whole record, deed, proceeding, or paper, which he desires to perpetuate, and if, on the hearing, the court shall declare the existence of such record, deed, or proceeding, or paper, at the time of

Destroyed
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